



## City of Fairfax Community Survey

### Introduction

The City of Fairfax is collecting feedback from City residents and business owners, like you, to help develop direction for the preparation of a new comprehensive plan to replace the City's current plan. Additionally, we would like your input on services the City provides.

A comprehensive plan is a policy document that describes a community's vision for how it wants to grow and develop over the next 20 years. It provides guidance on land use, transportation, housing, economic development, environment, public facilities, parks, recreation and historic preservation. It informs zoning and budget decisions. All localities in Virginia are required to prepare and adopt one.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to provide your input. We appreciate your feedback and look forward to your opinions informing the City of Fairfax Comprehensive Plan.

**Registration # \_\_\_\_\_**

*The Center for Social Science Research (CSSR) is conducting this survey.  
CSSR is a multidisciplinary research center within the College of  
Humanities and Social Sciences at George Mason University.*

***Please tell us a little about yourself***

1) Are you a resident or a business owner? (Check one)

- ☐ Live in the City of Fairfax
- ☐ Live and own a business in the City of Fairfax
- ☐ Own a business in the City of Fairfax, but do not live in the City of Fairfax (Skip to #9)
- ☐ Neither live nor own a business in the City of Fairfax

2) How old are you? (Check one)

- ☐ Under 20
- ☐ 20-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80 and above

3) How many people live in your household, including yourself?  
(Check one)

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6 or more

4) How many people in your household are under the age of 20, including yourself? (Check one)

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6 or more

5) What type of residence do you live in? (Check one)

- ☐ Single-family home
- ☐ Duplex
- ☐ Townhome
- ☐ Apartment
- ☐ Condominium
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

6) What neighborhood do you live in?

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Don't know

7) When did you last move to the City of Fairfax? (Check one)

- ☐ Born in the City of Fairfax and have always lived here (skip to #9)
- ☐ Less than 1 year ago
- ☐ 1-5 years ago
- ☐ 6-10 years ago
- ☐ 11-20 years ago
- ☐ 21-30 years ago
- ☐ More than 30 years ago

8) Where did you move from? (Check one)

- ☐ Alexandria
- ☐ Arlington County
- ☐ Fairfax County (including Falls Church)
- ☐ Loudoun County
- ☐ Prince William County (including Manassas & Manassas Park)
- ☐ Somewhere else in Virginia
- ☐ Washington, DC
- ☐ Maryland
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

9) Where do you primarily work? (Check one)

- ☐ Within the City of Fairfax
- ☐ Alexandria
- ☐ Arlington County
- ☐ Fairfax County (including Falls Church)
- ☐ Loudoun County
- ☐ Prince William County (including Manassas & Manassas Park)
- ☐ Somewhere else in Virginia
- ☐ Washington, D.C.
- ☐ Maryland
- ☐ Don't work outside the home: Homemaker
- ☐ Don't work outside the home: Student
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Other Location \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Comprehensive Plan***

10) How familiar are you with the City of Fairfax Comprehensive Plan? (Check one)

- ☐ Very familiar
- ☐ Familiar
- ☐ Not very familiar
- ☐ Never heard of it

11) How would you prefer to learn more about the City's effort to prepare a new Comprehensive Plan? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Public meetings or open houses
- ☐ Email or Fairfax City Alert
- ☐ Text messages
- ☐ Facebook, Twitter or Instagram
- ☐ Staff office hours in the community (at the library, local coffee shop, etc.)
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Not interested in learning about the Comprehensive Plan

### ***Housing***

12) Which of the following housing types do you think is most needed in the City? (Check one)

- ☐ Single-family homes
- ☐ Duplexes
- ☐ Townhomes
- ☐ Apartments
- ☐ Condominiums
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ None of the above/No opinion

13) Please rank in order of importance the specialty housing you think is needed in the City.

	(Most Needed) 1	2	3	(Least Needed) 4
Affordable Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luxury Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14) Which of the following types of new housing development do you think should be a priority within a 10-minute walking distance of shopping centers in the City? (Check one)

- ☐ Single-family homes
- ☐ Duplexes and townhomes
- ☐ Apartments and condominiums
- ☐ Apartments and condominiums that include a mix of market-rate and affordable units
- ☐ Apartments and condominiums with a mix of offices
- ☐ Apartments and condominiums that include a mix of market-rate and affordable units, and office uses
- ☐ No new housing is needed within a 10-minute walking distance of shopping centers
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ None of the above/No opinion

15) What do you think is the most important role the City can take to ensure the availability of affordable housing? (Check one)

- ☐ Preserve the existing housing stock
- ☐ Provide financial assistance to residents (such as rental assistance or down payment assistance loans or home improvement assistance as is provided through the Neighborhood Renaissance Program)
- ☐ Provide tax or zoning incentives to housing developers
- ☐ Invest in affordable housing
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ None of the above/No opinion

16) Please indicate if you support or oppose limiting the size of houses near where you live? (Check one)

- ☐ Strongly support limitations
- ☐ Somewhat support limitations
- ☐ Neither support nor oppose limitations
- ☐ Somewhat oppose limitations
- ☐ Strongly oppose limitations

### ***Land Use and Development***

17) What types of businesses would you like to see more of in the City? (Check up to three types)

- ☐ Auto dealerships
- ☐ Banks
- ☐ Big box retail stores
- ☐ Coffee shops and cafés
- ☐ Entertainment (like a movie theater or bowling alley)
- ☐ Fitness centers and gyms
- ☐ Gas stations and convenience stores
- ☐ Grocery and gourmet food stores
- ☐ Hotels and other lodging
- ☐ Medical facilities and pharmacies
- ☐ Offices and professional services
- ☐ Personal services (like a hair or nail salon or dry cleaner)
- ☐ Restaurants
- ☐ Specialty retail stores
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Do not want any more new businesses in the City



18) To what extent do you think each of the following would benefit the City's economy in the next five to ten years?

	1= Most Beneficial	2= Beneficial	3= Least Beneficial	4= No Opinion
Construction of new single-family homes, duplexes or townhomes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Construction of new apartments, condominiums or mixed-use buildings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improvements to area roads, pedestrian or bicycle facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Investments in schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Investments in parks, trails and recreation facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promotion of green businesses and jobs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recruitment of new businesses and companies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Retention of existing businesses and companies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tax incentives to recruit and/or retain businesses and companies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19) Please rank in order of importance the environmental features you think the City should encourage or require in new developments? (Rank 1 through 5 with 1 being most important and 5 being least important)

	(Most important) 1	2	3	4	(Least Important) 5
Community gardens and composting stations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green or vegetated roofs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rain gardens and permeable or pervious pavement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar panels and other energy efficiencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tree plantings and use of native landscaping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## ***Transportation***

20) How often do you use the following types of transportation to go to work, school, shopping or for leisure? (Check one frequency for each type)

	Three or more times a week 1	Once or twice a week 2	Once or twice a month 3	Once or twice a year 4	Never 5
Automobile	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public Transportation (CUE bus, Fairfax Connector, Metrorail, Metrobus)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bicycle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walk	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21) What type of transportation do you use one or more times per week to commute to work or school? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Automobile
- ☐ Bus (CUE, Fairfax Connector or Metrobus)
- ☐ Metrorail
- ☐ Bicycle
- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Not applicable (Retired, work or stay at home)

22) How would you like to see the City invest its transportation dollars? (Check up to three)

- ☐ Construct new sidewalks and crosswalks where they currently do not exist
- ☐ Repair and maintain existing sidewalks and crosswalks
- ☐ Improve pedestrian amenities (such as lighting, landscaping, wayfinding signs)
- ☐ Construct bike lanes and bike paths/ trails
- ☐ Provide a bike-sharing program (like Capital Bikeshare)
- ☐ Enhance bus transit
- ☐ Build new streets to connect existing streets, creating more of a grid-style street layout
- ☐ Improve traffic flow
- ☐ Repair and maintain streets
- ☐ Provide additional parking facilities (such as on-street parking, surface lots or parking garages) in the downtown/Old Town Fairfax
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ None of the above/No opinion

23) Please indicate if any of the following keeps you from walking more in the City. (Check all that apply)

- ☐ The places I need to go are too far to walk
- ☐ Too few sidewalks or trails
- ☐ My health
- ☐ I do not feel safe because of traffic
- ☐ I do not feel safe because of crime
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

24) Please indicate if any of the following keeps you from bicycling more in the City. (Check all that apply)

- ☐ The places I need to go are too far to bike
- ☐ Too few bike lanes or trails
- ☐ My health
- ☐ I do not feel safe because of traffic
- ☐ I do not feel safe because of crime
- ☐ I do not have access to a bike
- ☐ I do not know how to bike
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

***City Services, including Customer Service***

25) How do you get information about City services? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Calling City Hall
- ☐ City of Fairfax web page ([www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov))
- ☐ Cityscene newsletter
- ☐ Cityscreen-12
- ☐ Fairfax City Alert
- ☐ Local newspaper (Fairfax Connection, Fairfax County Times)
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

26) Do you think the City does a good job providing information and obtaining input from residents, business and property owners on critical issues? (Check one)

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☐ No opinion

27) How would you rate each of the following City services? (1 = Excellent, 2 = Good, 3 = Fair, 4 = Poor, 5 = Not Applicable or Don't Know)

	Excellent 1	Good 2	Fair 3	Poor 4	Not Applicable or Don't Know 5
Building and zoning code enforcement and inspections	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public safety (Police, Fire & Rescue)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Road maintenance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trash/recycling pick-up, snow removal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other City services not listed:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

28) Have you contacted the City during the past year? (Check one)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (Skip to #30)

29) During your interactions with the City in the past year, please rate your satisfaction with City employees for each of the following: (1 = Always, 2 = Usually, 3 = Sometimes, 4 = Seldom, 5 = Never)

- \_\_\_ It was easy to find someone to address my request.  
 \_\_\_ The response time was reasonable.  
 \_\_\_ I was able to get my question/concern resolved.  
 \_\_\_ City employees were courteous and professional.

**Quality of Life**

30) Overall, how satisfied are you with your life in the City? (Check one)

- ☐ Very Satisfied  
☐ Satisfied  
☐ Dissatisfied  
☐ Very Dissatisfied  
☐ No opinion

31) How satisfied are you with the City of Fairfax? Please rank your satisfaction with each of the following?

	1= Very Satisfied	2= Satisfied	3= Dissatisfied	4= Very Dissatisfied	5= Not Applicable/ No Opinion
Housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Land use and development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transportation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
City services, including customer service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32) How likely is it that you would recommend the following to a friend or colleague?

	Not at all likely					Extremely likely				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
City of Fairfax as a great place to live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restaurants and/or businesses in the City of Fairfax	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

33) Please provide below any other concerns or issues you would like to see addressed in the City’s Comprehensive Plan:

34) Please provide your email address if you would like to receive updates on the Plan.